Meeting Proceedings (Public Comments)*
Greater Moose's Tooth 2 SEIS Public Scoping Meeting #2
Nuiqsut, Alaska September 27, 2016

Sponsored by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Compiled by:
BLM Arctic Office
222 University Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Transcribed by: Stacey Fritz and Zoe Marshall

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- *Only audience comments, questions, and testimony are transcribed verbatim (as distinguished by italics). BLM commentary is summarized only.*
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Stephanie Rice (SR)
Stacie McIntosh (SM)
Stacey Fritz (SF)

Audience members:

Clarence Ahnupkana
Walton Ahmaogak
Joseph Nukapigak
Robert Nukapigak
Don Eller
Lisa Pekich, CPAI

Stephanie Rice: (introduces project)

Don Eller: Could you define and explain what environmental justice is?

Stephanie Rice: Environmental justice applies to minority communities

Stacey Fritz: (explains why Nuiqsut is an environmental justice population)

Don Eller: The other question is as far as how specifically would this development affect climate… climate change affects rather than any other development or whatever how does that fit in?

Stephanie Rice: How does climate change affect the project and how does the project affect climate change. Did that answer your question?

Don Eller: Yes, and no. Because if you're going to, ok. Climate change has been going on for about– Since the world was created, cause you know a long time ago we were covered by a 100ft of ice everywhere except for Alaska. And as long as the whole idea of burning fossil fuels and creating greenhouse gases is the thing, it's actually more of a political, uh policy decision isn't it?…

Stephanie Rice: No, it's a science issue.

Don Eller: Okay.

Stephanie Rice: Science of how the climate is changing

Stacie McIntosh: Frequently when we have analyzed climate change previously

Joseph Nukapigak: I got a question. Add on to what Donnie was asking about. Has there been any computer modeling on your emissions before you put any infrastructure like in Alpine before that, and after, what the effects might be?

Stephanie Rice: Only air emission

Joseph Nukapigak: That's ah, I know but I am not satisfied with that. What about with this computer modeling of it?

Stacie McIntosh: (long detailed explanation of air quality modeling)

Joseph Nukapigak: So that is going to be the first of its kind? the modeling of (unclear) like in the computer.

Stacie McIntosh: No – Greater Mooses Tooth 1

Joseph Nukapigak: Oh I didn't know that. I haven't seen any report on that or, I read a lot of material but I haven't seen, or come across (unclear) that.

Stacie McIntosh: It was in the appendix.

Joseph Nukapigak: *So I take it that, So I take it that once GMT2 becomes operational then they might, they will put air monitoring stations like we have right here in the village or…?*

Stacie McIntosh: Depends on the modeling and what people say – if there is a lot

Joseph Nukapigak: Well you know it is obvious that climate change and development is something that, you know that's happened – 10 years ago you are not going to see these willows growing along the road side but now we're seeing those a lot– and now we're seeing land otters that we don't, we don't normally see coming or new animals migrating up North – that's climate change effects – because of how geographically (unclear) may be.

Stacie McIntosh: Seems like every year someone is talking about something new up here.

Joseph Nukapigak: (unclear: no/oh) I'm just curious

Stephanie Rice: (explains air quality modeling with slide)

Don Eller: What historic range of weather data – 50s 40s? What? What range is used?

Stephanie Rice: I believe you need at least 5 years – just weather patterns and long enough pattern to predict – very precise and daily measurements

Don Eller: So only 5 years?

Stephanie Rice: Yeah you only need the weather pattern.

Stacie McIntosh: We are contracting with a company to carry out the modeling with –

Stephanie Rice: Short answer you need to have enough data that you know you are not including a fluke year in your model.

Stephanie Rice: Cooperating agencies (list and discussion)

Joseph Nukapigak: Who determines these cooperating, cooperating agents? Who determines that?

Stephanie Rice: BLM determines that

Stacie McIntosh: If an agency has to issue a permit in association with this permit – the other factor is having specialized experience

Stephanie Rice: We are consulting with Kuukpik, and ASRC and Conoco but they are for-profit corporations – purpose and need for GMT2 – projected schedule- discussion of alternatives- cannot select the no action alternative.—(discussion of how commenting works)

Don Eller: Your timeframe for the release of the draft – what, what's going on during that time period

Stephanie Rice: Timeline is driven by air quality –

Don Eller: There is no statutory time frame? – it's BLM, BLM sets the schedule?

Stephanie Rice: No statutory time frame.

Joseph Nukapigak: Has that GMT2 been totally um, uh, delineated?

Stacie McIntosh: You mean the reservoir?

Joseph Nukapigak: Yeah.

Stacie McIntosh: I think so

Joseph Nukapigak: (unclear) if the GMT2, if it is going to be for development I sure would like to know how, you know, what the deal is – what- how many barrels a day or what can – I don't see that here – if this is going to be a scoping meeting.

Stephanie Rice: Max output is 30,000 barrels a day

Joseph Nukapigak: well that is the only thing I have seen on the commercials. (unclear) Period 1000 barrels a day but only (unclear: I've seen) nothing (unclear: involves) anybody (unclear) this is how many barrels there is sitting on the GMT2

Stephanie Rice: I don't know that we know that yet. It's based on exploratory drilling.

Stacie McIntosh: It has been estimated – presented in a documented that ConocoPhillips submitted – there is peak production that is where you 30,000 barrels per day but because you can only drill so many wells per year, there is an estimate for every year then after peak production the estimate then goes down. When you look at a 30-year time period that is variable.

Joseph Nukapigak: When you suggest about a 30-year time period does that include, in your analysis, satellite fields?

Stacie McIntosh: you mean like Alpine?

Joseph Nukapigak: No. on the GMT2 you know sometime like when you say like Alpine- When we allowed Alpine to be (unclear) we (unclear… that they) would be satellite. you know, you know what I'm saying.

Stephanie Rice: I think you're talking about reasonably foreseeable future development.

Joseph Nukapigak: Ok

Stacie McIntosh: We actually don't know of – Conoco has explored –

Robert Nukapigak: I got one. If the GMT2 is proposed already (if it's) on the table– the way I see your satellite, your outline on how the alpine satellite development will be planned–(unclear) how far the barges going to be from GMT2 (unclear) – what development going to be like once GMT2 gets online

Stacie McIntosh: (don't know about future development) analysis based on reasonably foreseeable events.

Joseph Nukapigak: I got one more question – In a, sometime in the past, I believe 2004 or somewhere in that neighborhood - my question is: the buffer zone in Fish Creek area, and what-not, is that still in effect or is that going to change?

Stacie McIntosh: the only thing that would make that change is if BLM was made to revisit buffers. This decision will stand until told to do another plan. (Explains how presidential administration can affect plans)

Lisa Pekich: show it on your map – the buffer- maybe explain what the, about (unclear: IEP) about the buffer or what…

Stephanie Rice: This blue area is the FC buffer –

Stacie McIntosh: On BLM land

Lisa Pekich: But Yellow is already conveyed.

Stephanie Rice: It's interim conveyed

Stacie McIntosh: But its treated as if its conveyed.

Joseph Nukapigak: (unclear) Kuukpik selected those lands and some of those, I don't know, are within that (unclear: buffer zone). Then some of that land when its conveyed to Kuupik then the (unclear: buffer zone) and some of those go away?

Stacie McIntosh: BLM can't make that – Kuukpik has the ability to say whether or not they want the buffer to exist.

Joseph Nukapigak: Yeah, that's why I was a little confused is because whether it might be required still?

Stacie McIntosh: No

Joseph Nukapigak: OK.

Donnie: What is the purpose of the buffer?

Stacie McIntosh: Back in 1998 when we did the first plan – offer up acreage –that plan went through an EIS process – 3 miles buffer, shouldn't be any development – did allow perpendicular to the stream crossing – contingency – nothing parallel

Stephanie Rice: Any other questions?

Clarence Ahnupkana: Yeah, How, how, I want to know how they build the road? How will they build the road? (unclear: how will they get gravel?)

Stephanie Rice: If we go with a road option – The road will be gravel- looking at a Roadless option.

Stacie McIntosh: (explains road construction)

Clarence Ahnupkana: I mean before before, they put gravel on top of it?

Stacie McIntosh: It just goes down

Clarence Ahnupkana: They put, do they put any foam, like foam or tarp? Anything like that? Just like that? You just dump the gravel on the tundra?

Stacie McIntosh: yes, they found through experiments over time – the Navy – thinking about the future –

Clarence Ahnupkana: There's quite, I think there are quite a few rivers out there (unclear: southwest) and you know there's rivers– water flows out there – there's rivers, they put pipes where they put gravel?-

Stacie McIntosh: Culvers.

Clarence Ahnupkana: –culverts? - how wide is and how big are the gravel piles and pipes?

Stacie McIntosh: I'm not sure what size for culverts– no bridges –

Clarence Ahnupkana: And how high is it going to be if they built it? How high?

Stephanie Rice: Similar to other roads that are going to, the proposal right

Lisa Pekich: Just to clarify – CD5 road that part that's in the Delta and by the bridges is higher because the higher the bridges that they need to build. That these are going to be more like (unclear) 5ft max road there not going to be as high as (unclear). Just to clarify that.

Stacie McIntosh: 5 feet tall, 30 feet wide –

Lisa Pekich: which is more like (unclear: kuparik?) if your outside the delta then there five feet. If they are in the delta they are more likely to be a little higher.

Clarence Ahnupkana: They'll be, if they built it there will be ramps, like ramps to go over the road?

Stephanie Rice: yea I think that is the proposal

Clarence Ahnupkana: I see quite a few ramps like they are kinda little too high, you know, like you have to go out around in the snow-machine. Sometimes the snow-machine (unclear: strong enough to get) up the ramp –(unclear: sometimes not)- you have to go further-a bit too far and you start speeding up and you almost just fly – seems like it's pretty high down this road, building the ramp.

Lisa Pekich: The subsistence pull-offs will be sloped and they will be much bigger than the ramps, you know, we didn't anticipate that issue with the CD5 road so we improved the design for GMT1 so they are actually big enough to pull out on the road and they will also be sloped to assist with crossing.

Clarence Ahnupkana: The ramps are not wide enough.

Stacie McIntosh: It's like an experiment in ramp building, they are going back out and fine tuning the ramps they put in.

Clarence Ahnupkana: They should put reflectors so that we know where the ramps are.

Stacie McIntosh: Good idea.

Lisa Pekich: There might be but I will double check. I know there's there are crossing signs so the trucks know where the crossings are but I'll make, I will check on that.

Clarence Ahnupkana: Because in winter time, winter time people go out snow-machining – and some residents (unclear) sometimes have hard time climbing up that ramp – and (unclear) that ramp.

Stacie McIntosh: I know last year there were problems with the temporary ramps.

Clarence Ahnupkana: Put reflectors on (unclear) like markers where we could look for them and find them.

Clarence Ahnupkana: By the way before they decided to build the road, be sure they put duck ponds (unclear) make it safe- like caribou eat grass and we eat the caribou and we don't want the disease to come up where (unclear) we eat caribou even now.

Stephanie Rice: yeah we were told there were some caribou right outside of town.

Joseph Nukapigak: you know if we make requirements (unclear: of such a duck pond) we might require it here in the village too! I was just kidding.